(*ii*) if so, what;

(*e*) whether if the answer is in the affirmative, the scale has come into effect?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) 2 Section Superintendents and 19 Work Superintendents.

(*b*) Rs. 40—60 for Section Superintendents and Rs. 25—40 for Work Superintendents.

(*c*) The question of revision of pay of the Work Superintendents was considered before and dropped on financial grounds.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) No answer is necessary.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):* May I know what was the recommendation of the Chief Engineer when the matter was considered.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* That cannot be disclosed.

ARTICLE IN THE "MALABAR MAIL"—"OUR ROADS"

127. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have read the article on page 1 of the "Malabar Mail" dated, 24th June 1943 under the caption "Our roads" (നമ്മുടെ റോഡുകൾ) by പഥികൻ (way-farer);

(*b*) the action taken by Government to improve the roads referred to therein?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Two Roads have been mentioned in this article, *viz.*, The Perumanur road in the Ernakulam Town and the Hill Palace road.

The Perumanur road has been now transferred to the P. W. D. from the Municipality. The necessary immediate repairs have been done to it since, and arrangements have been made for thoroughly repairing it.

The Hill Palace road is in fair condition.

PUBLIC LIBRARY AND READING ROOM, TRICHUR

128. Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether representations have been made in regard to the disturbances and difficulties experienced by the Public Library and Reading Room, located in the Town Hall Buildings, Trichur on days of Public Functions in the Town Hall;

(*b*) whether suggestion have been made by the Library Authorities to get over the difficulties;

(*c*) whether any inquiry been made into the matter; and

(*d*) whether any measures have been taken to remove the difficulty?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A suggestion to put in collapsible steel shutters at the entrances to the rear room from the Library hall was made.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Due to war conditions the question of putting up steel shutters was found to be a costly item. Further the putting up of steel shutters will mar the beauty of the interior. The putting up of wooden shutters will not harmonise with the design to the building.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether in answer (d), "steel shutters" means "collapsible iron gates?"

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Collapsible steel shutters.

Mr. M. Krishna Monon *(Trichur-North):* Was there not a suggestion to put half panelled shutters between the Foyer and the Crush hall?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Such works of having more shutters in the building was found to be not suitable for that.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether the Hon'ble member had any occasion to notice the difficulty in the Public Library and Reading Room when public functions are held in the Town Hall?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Those occasions are very rare.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether in such occasions the entrances from the Foyer could not be closed?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* To get the proper atmosphere it is necessary to go through the main entrance. On these days, I suggested to the authorities that the reading room should be shifted to the pressroom which is also to the south of the main hall, and they could read newspapers.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly